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INTERNATIONAL HOTEL TENANTS ASSOCIATION

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President Jimmy Carter
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Carter:

As a Chairman of the International Hotel Tenants Association and an activist for the Third World Community, I have worked closely with many organizations and senior citizens in San Francisco and the Bay Area over a period of years. The smear campaign that Rev. Jim Jones and the Peoples Temple have undergone is an old tactic used to discredit activist organizations, but in this case it has not worked. Too many people have benefitted from the widely used services of the Temple's human service ministry, and too many organizations and community leaders have worked first hand with Temple leaders and representatives to believe anything that might appear negative about them in the press. Some 2,000 Temple members showed in support of my own organization when we were under attack. It is interesting to also note that the City's District Attorney could find nothing actionable in the list of allegations against the Peoples Temple.

Peoples Temple is building a first class city in Jonestown, Guyana, where 1,500 American youth and senior citizens, many of them denied educational and housing opportunities in America, or were in fear of being mugged on the streets, worried about their children becoming pimps, prostitutes, or dope addicts, have gone with their families to build a city of good will that has been visited by many dignitaries and governmental leaders from around the world.

Peoples Temple is accomplishing good will through the use of its ham radio set. Former members who had tried to subvert the organization, threatened to instigate investigation by federal agencies such as the IRS and the FCC if they were unable to convince people to take up violent means to vent their anger, rather than work peacefully through the system as the Temple has always encouraged. Close compliance with FCC regulations has allowed for first class medical care to be brought into the jungle and for countless inhabitants to be taken care of outside of Jonestown. Also there has been a continual stream of contacts, several thousand, made by Rev. Jones to strengthen U.S.-Caribbean friendship. The State Department has visited many times and found Jonestown to be a thriving community with the residents productive and happy.

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Whatever you can to to encourage and support what Rev. Jones and the Peoples Temple are doing in Guyana, would certainly be appreciated by their many friends and supporters.

Sincerely yours,

Emil De Guzman, Jr.

cc: Mr. Cyrus R. Vance, Dept. of State
Mr. Jerome Kurtz, I.R.S.
Mr. Richard Kiley, F.C.C.
Mr. Joseph Califano, H.E.W.

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